



September 2005

NEIGHBORHOOD INTERVENTIONS GEARED TO HIGH-RISK TESTING

What we do: The Department of Health Services, Office of AIDS (DHS/OA) established the Neighborhood Interventions Geared to High-Risk Testing (NIGHT) Program to increase the number of high-risk persons obtaining HIV counseling and testing (C&T) services. Of the 21 NIGHT Program sites, 19 have mobile testing vans that provide a private space to offer HIV C&T services. Some vans are co-located with other health programs that provide services to high-risk populations in a local health jurisdiction.

Who we serve: The NIGHT Program targets populations at high-risk for HIV transmission through targeted prevention activities in locations where these groups congregate. These specific groups include the following:

- Substance users, injection drug users, and their sex and/or needle-sharing partners;
- Men who have sex with men;
- Sex industry workers;
- High-risk women of childbearing age (12-45 years of age) who are eligible to receive Medi-Cal; and
- Transgendered persons.

What we have done: DHS/OA NIGHT program has successfully increased the number of HIV testing for high-risk clients and decreased the number of clients who do not return for test results by moving HIV C&T services into the community and implementation of rapid HIV testing in mobile van sites and community testing clinics. NIGHT staff continually enhances their capacity to provide test results through training as well as various technical assistance opportunities.

Helpful resources:

- For information on other local HIV/AIDS services, see the *California AIDS Clearinghouse Resource Directory* at Website <http://www.hivinfo.org/links/lhj.htm>.
- For information about HIV/AIDS, call: *California AIDS Hotline* at (800) 367-AIDS (English/Spanish/Filipino) or (888) 225-AIDS (TDD).
- *National AIDS Hotline* at (800) 342-AIDS (English), (800) 344-SIDA (Spanish), or (800) 243-7889 (TDD).
- For information on OA's mission, OA's programs, and other helpful resources, see Website <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/AIDS>.

